

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	11768	Agenda Number	43.
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Meeting Date:	January 12, 2012
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize award and execution of a contract with LIGHTHOUSE SOLAR AUSTIN, Austin, TX, for the installation of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at seven City of Austin locations in an estimated amount not to exceed \$223,715.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Capital Budget for Austin Energy.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	Lowest bid meeting specification of six bids received.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Terry V. Nicholson, Sr. Buyer, 512-322-6586
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Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Electric Utility Commission and the Resource Management Commission.
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MBE / WBE:	This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9C of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

This contract is for installation services of solar photovoltaic (PV) systems at seven City-owned buildings. The systems will be connected on the building side of the main electric meter, thereby reducing energy costs by approximately \$14,150 a year. The Contractor will be responsible for all aspects of the installation including the required hardware, labor, safety, supervision, and related tasks for a complete turnkey service. Installation of this equipment is expected to be completed within four months of contract award.

The locations receiving the installations and their respective system kilowatt ratings are as follows:

- Ruiz Library, 1600 Grove Blvd. - 4.8 kW
- Spicewood Springs Library, 8637 Spicewood Springs Rd. - 5.28 kW
- Cepeda Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley Rd. - 5.28 kW
- Health Department, 7201 Levander Loop, Bldg. H - 10.4 kW
- Austin Energy's St. Elmo Service Center, 4411-B Meinardus Dr. - 10.56 kW
- South Austin Recreation Center, 1100 Cumberland Rd. - 10.56 kW
- Givens Recreation Center, 3811 East 12th St. - 60.48 kW

In 2007, the City of Austin established a Climate Protection Plan that expands on Austin Energy's (AE) 2003 Strategic Plan calling for AE to implement a highly visible public awareness and education program involving the installation of solar PV systems at branch libraries and community centers. This contract will expand the number of municipal facilities that have solar PV installations and promote conservation through the use of alternative energy sources while generating an estimated 139 Renewable Energy Credits per year. The installations have been solicited together to facilitate an economy of scale and these facilities offered good orientation and roof space to accommodate the systems.

This energy improvement will save enough energy to provide electricity to 14 average Austin homes for a year. The resulting savings are equivalent to the planting of 3,044 trees or 152 acres of forest in Austin's parks or the removal of 155,853 vehicle miles or 19 cars from Austin roadways. This project will save 80.71 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide (CO₂), 34 pounds of Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂), 172 pounds of Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x), and 224 pounds of Carbon Monoxide (CO) from being emitted into the atmosphere.

MBE/WBE solicited: 3/2

MBE/WBE bid: 0/0

BID TABULATION

IFB No. TVN0068

Solar Photovoltaic System Installation Services

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Bid Total</u>
Lighthouse Solar	\$223,715
Austin, TX	
Solar Community.....	\$228,710
Austin, TX	
QA Construction Services, Inc.	\$275,945
Austin, TX	
Texas Solar Power Co.	\$312,229
Austin, TX	
S. Randall Electric, Inc.	\$325,111
Austin, TX	
Hill Country Ecopower, Inc.	*

Austin, TX

*Non-responsive, did not meet minimum qualifications

A complete bid tabulation is on file in the Purchasing Office and is on the City of Austin, FASD Purchasing Office website.

PRICE ANALYSIS

- a. Adequate competition.
- b. Eighty notices were sent, including three MBEs and two WBEs. Six bids were received with no response from the MBE /WBE's.
- c. This is the first purchase of its type; therefore, there is no pricing history available.

APPROVAL JUSTIFICATION

- a. Lowest bid.
- b. The Purchasing Office concurs with Austin Energy's recommended award.
- c. Advertised on the Internet.